(c) The notified selling price of subsidized fertilizers during the years 2003-04 and 2007-08 were:-

MRPs of Fertilizers

(w.e.f. 12.3.2003 till March 2008)

Products	Existing MRPs
Urea – "N"	4830
DAP–"P"	9350
mop–"k"	4455
Complex Fertilizers	
16:20:00	7100
20:20:00	7280
23:23:00	8000
28:28:00	9080
10:26:26	8360
12:32:16	8484
14:28:14	8300
14:35:14	8660
15:15:15	6980
17:17:17	8100
19:19:19	8300
SSP	Fixed by the State Government

Coal fed urea units

34. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that out of about 200 urea production facilities in China, 70 per cent are using coal as feedstock;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to escalating gas feedstock price in the international market, gas fed urea companies in China are now rushing to invest in coal fed production facilities; and

(c) whether Government is serious in utilizing its huge coal reserve for similar purposes to make the country self reliant in production of fertilizers and supply of feedstock as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) China is a major producer of urea using coal as

feedstock. According to information available, it is estimated that approximately 42.6% capacity of large urea plants in China is based on coal as feedstock. It is also learnt that a number of new urea capacities are being planned based on coal as feedstock in China.

(c) The Government of India has already recognized coal as a viable source of feed stock for production of urea in the country. The New Investment Policy for urea sector notified in September, 2008, recognizes coal gas as an alternative source of urea production in the country. With the above policy dispensation, it is expected that feasibility of utilizing high ash Indian coal for production of urea in the country will be actively explored by the Indian industry.

Price hike of bulk drugs

35. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 650 drug makers have reportedly asked Government to immediately increase the prices of 33 bulk drugs, failing which companies will have to stop manufacturing several medicines;

(b) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has also been asked to examine the need to increase prices of these bulk drugs, as demanded by Pharmaceutical companies; and

(c) if so, whether Government intends to harmonize price control issues with growth as well as examine requirements of the pharmaceutical industry and undertake price fixation and price monitoring so that common man could afford to buy essential medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Industry Associations namely Indian Drug Manufacturers Association (IDMA), Organization of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) and Bulk Drug Manufacturers Associations (BDMA) requested to the Government/National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to increase the price of 33 bulk drugs during May-June, 2008.

(b) The Government in its meeting held on 26.6.2008 advised the Pharma Industry Associations that the respective units may file price revision applications in respect of 33 bulk drugs to NPPA under para 3(5) of DPCO,95 and NPPA will examine these price revision application on case to case basis.

(c) The 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95. The monitoring of prices of non-scheduled formulations is currently carried out by a specified criteria on the basis of data from ORG IMS. The criteria, namely, high turnover and 10% price increase are designed to identify cases of mass consumption and to meet the requirement of 'public interest', referred to in para 10(b) of the